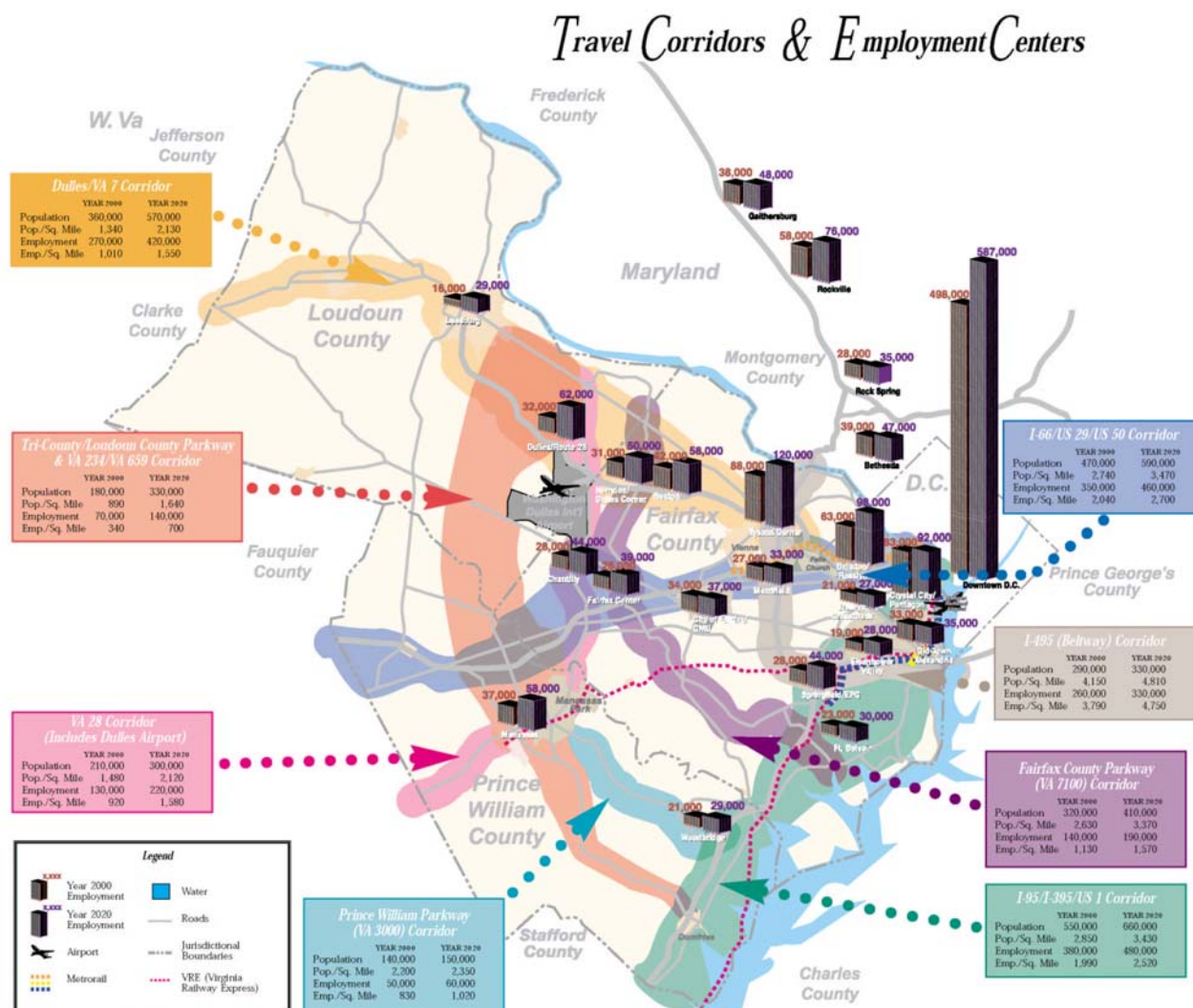


particular, will experience significant growth in traffic congestion over the next 20 years.

Figure 2-2. Travel Corridors and Employment Centers in Northern Virginia



Source: Virginia Department of Transportation, *Northern Virginia 2020 Transportation Plan*, Dec. 1999.

## Population Data and Projections

### Population

**Fairfax County is the most populous jurisdiction in both Virginia and the Washington metropolitan area.**

Fairfax County is the most populous jurisdiction in both Virginia and the Washington metropolitan area. From 1970 to 1980, the county's population increased from 454,275 to 596,901, roughly 31 percent. The population increase from 1980 to 1990 was even greater, a rise of 37 percent, to 818,584 residents. Population growth decreased to 18.5 percent over the next decade, to 969,749 residents in 2000. The Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services estimates that the total county population in January 2001 was 984,366.

Table 2-1 presents Fairfax County's population in 2001 by magisterial district.

*Table 2-1. 2001 Fairfax County Population by Magisterial District*

Magisterial district	Population
Braddock	106,484
Dranesville <sup>a</sup>	104,148
Hunter Mill <sup>b</sup>	118,977
Lee	100,270
Mason	103,736
Mount Vernon	114,256
Providence	110,995
Springfield <sup>c</sup>	116,025
Sully	109,475
Total	984,366

Source: Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services, 2001.

<sup>a</sup> Includes the Town of Herndon.

<sup>b</sup> Includes the Town of Vienna.

<sup>c</sup> Includes the Town of Clifton.

**The population will grow over the next 20 years, but at diminishing rates.**



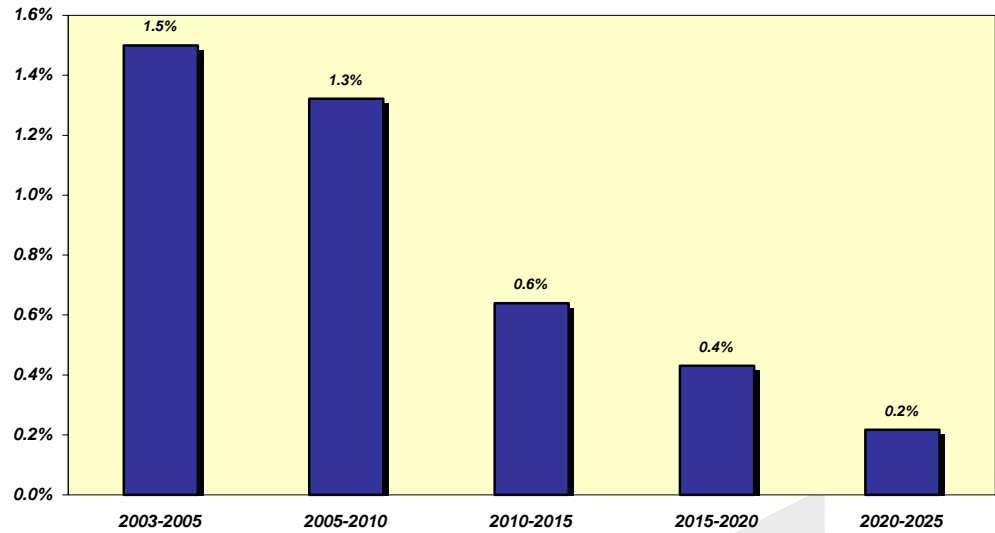
### Population Forecasts

Fairfax County's expects the population in its service area to grow over the SWMP planning period, but at diminishing rates. Figure 2-3 shows the county's estimated annual growth rates through 2025, and Figure 2-4 shows its projected population through 2025.

The county projects population growth to be greatest in the current less-developed areas, as the trend of county urbanization continues. Increased population and new households will likely result in increased generation of municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction/demolition/debris (CDD) wastes.

Appendix A contains additional information concerning the trends in population growth and households.

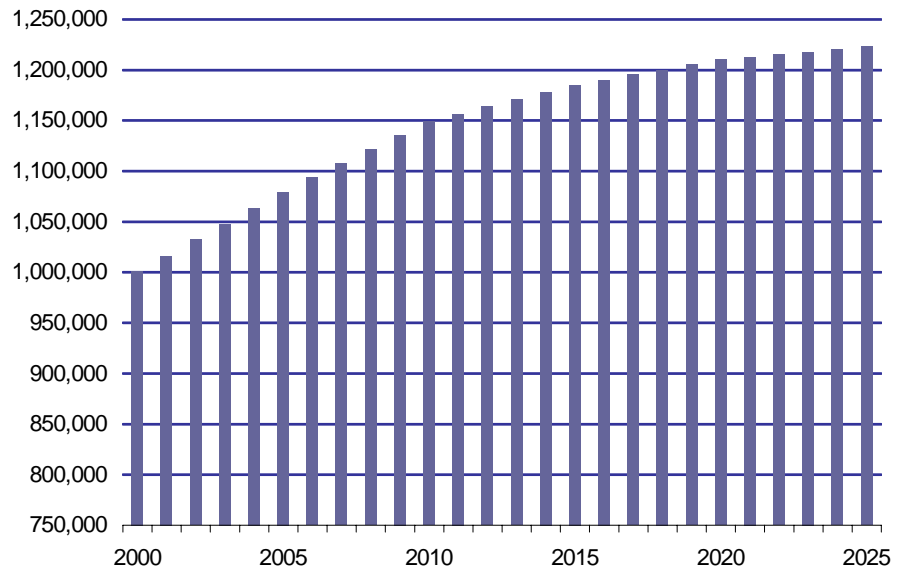
Figure 2-3. Fairfax County Service Area Annual Population Growth, Projected 2003–2025



Note: Includes the Towns of Vienna, Clifton, and Herndon and Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.  
Source: Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services, 2001.

Figure 2-4. Fairfax County Service Area Total Population, Projected 2000–2025

**Fairfax County projects that its population will grow to 1,220,000 (an increase of more than 200,000) over the next 20 years.**



Note: Includes the Towns of Vienna, Clifton, and Herndon and Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.  
Source: Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services, 2001.

**Fairfax County's population density is 2,455 persons per square mile, classifying it as "very dense urban."**

### Urban Concentrations

The U.S. Census Bureau calculated that Fairfax County's population density in 2000 was 2,455 persons per square mile (or 3.8 persons per acre). This density classifies the county as very dense urban, close to the average U.S. central city population density of 2,716 persons per square mile. In contrast, the 2000 population density was 80 persons per square mile in the United States and 179 persons per square mile in Virginia.



Table 2-2 compares Fairfax County's population density with its bordering counties.

*Table 2-2. Population Densities of Bordering Counties*

Bordering county	Population density (persons/mi <sup>2</sup> )
Arlington	7,323
Loudoun	326
Montgomery	1,763
Prince William	831
Fairfax County	2,455

**The Fairfax County population is denser in the areas closer to Washington, DC.**

Over the past 30 years, development has extended from inside the Capital Beltway (Interstate 495) to the west and south to provide, in part, needed housing for the expanding population. As a result, Fairfax County's population is denser in the areas closer to Washington, DC. Additional population concentrations are along the Interstate 66 and Dulles Toll Road (Virginia Route A-267) corridors. Figure 2-5 shows the county's population density by sub-census plot.